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# Regulations For Fences



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WAUKESHA**

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**CITY OF WAUKESHA**

## Regulations for Fences

In the Zoning Code for the City of Waukesha, FENCES are defined as follows: (SECTION 22.05)

### **Fence, Open**

A structure of rails, planks, stakes, strung wire, or similar material erected as an enclosure, barrier, or boundary.

Open fences are those with more than 50% of their surface area open for free passage of light and air. Examples of such fences include but are not limited to barbed wire, chain link, picket, and rail fences.

### **Fence, Ornamental**

An open fence other than a chain link or barbed wire fence intended to decorate, accent, or frame a feature of the landscape. Ornamental fences are often used to identify a lot corner or lot line; or frame a driveway, walkway, or planting bed. Ornamental fences are often of the rail, or wrought iron, type.



### **Fence, Security**

A fence intended to guard property against unauthorized entry, and to protect stored goods and products from theft and other unauthorized handling. Security fences usually exceed six feet in

height, are often made of wrought iron or woven wire, and may incorporate additional security features such as barbed wire.

### **Fence, Solid.**

A structure of rails, planks, stakes, strung wire, or similar material erected as an enclosure, barrier, or boundary. Solid fences are those with 50% or less of their surface area open for free passage of light and air and designed to conceal from view the

activities conducted behind them. Examples of such fences include but are not limited to stockade, board-on-board, board and batten, basket weave, louvered fence, and chain link with screening inserts.

# Requirements For Fences

**Fences are a permitted accessory use in any district (permits are not required) and must comply with the following requirements (SECTION 22.58(j)):**

**Barbed wire fences and electric fences** are prohibited except in the T-1 Temporary District. T-1 fences are permitted up to the lot line and shall not exceed four (4) feet in height in the street yard or six (6) feet in height in the side yard or rear yard. All fences erected in a street yard of the T-1 district shall be open fences as defined in section 22.05

**Residential fences** are permitted up to the lot line in the side and rear yards of residential districts, but shall not exceed a height of six (6) feet, and shall not extend into the street yard. Residential fences may be solid fences as defined in section 22.05. Residential fences shall be constructed in such a manner that the finished side shall face the neighboring property. Fence posts shall be on the side of the fence facing away from the neighboring property. (See Illustration No.4)

**Ornamental fences,** as defined in section 22.05, are permitted in the street yard in any district, but shall not be erected in a street right-of-way and shall not exceed a height of four (4) feet. Ornamental fences on corner lots must not obstruct or interfere with traffic visibility as set forth in section 22.53. Ornamental fences shall be constructed in such a manner that the finished side shall face the neighboring property. Fence posts shall be on the side of the fence facing away from the neighboring property. (See Illustration No. 4)

**Security fences,** are permitted up to the

property lines in all districts except residential districts, but shall not exceed ten (10) feet in height and shall be open fences when located in the street yard. Security fences may include up to four strands of barbed wire on the top of the fence provided that the barbed wire is at least eight (8) feet above grade with the vertical supports for the barbed wire either extending vertical or slanting inward away from the property line. Security fences on corner lots must not obstruct or interfere with traffic visibility as set forth in section 22.53. Security fences shall be constructed in such a manner that the finished side shall face the neighboring property. Fence posts shall be on the

side of the fence facing away from the neighboring property. (See Illustration No. 4)

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Permit Application Requirements  
NO PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR A FENCE.

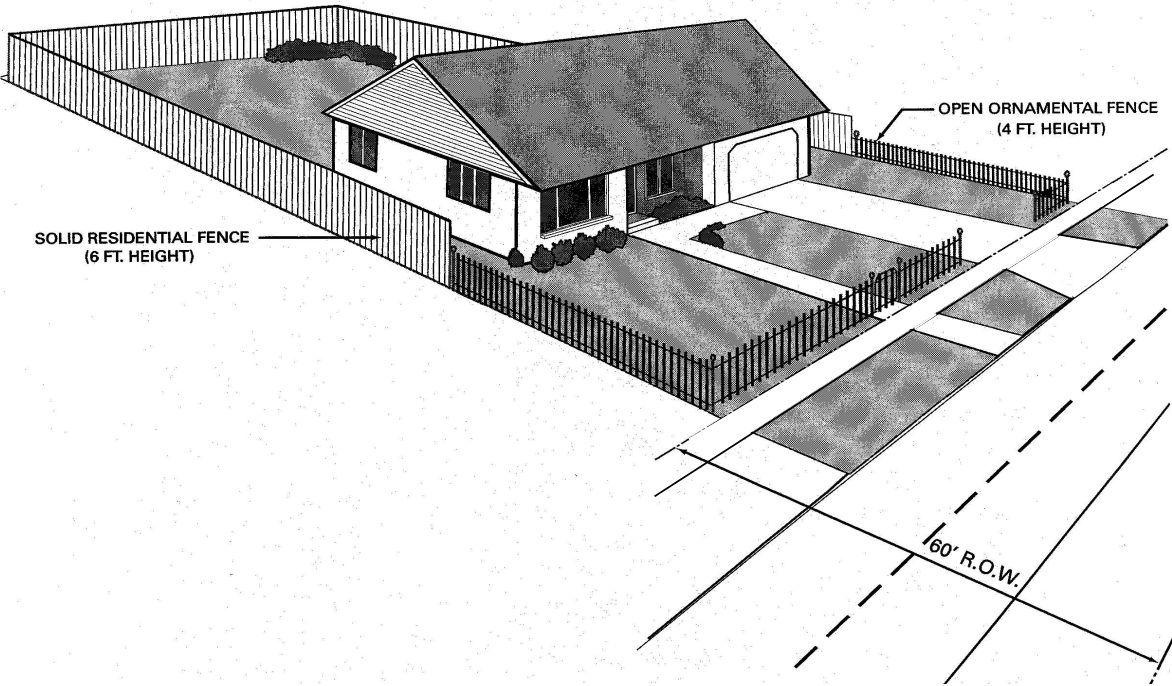
For questions concerning fencing regulation, call the Department of Community Development:

(262) 524-3530.

The entire text of the City of Waukesha Zoning Code can be found on the City of Waukesha’s webpage at:

[www.ci.waukesha.wi.us](http://www.ci.waukesha.wi.us).

ILLUSTRATION NO. 4  
LOCATIONS OF RESIDENTIAL AND ORNAMENTAL FENCES



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